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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

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		BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP
Date: _	October 4, 2002	R. Alan Burnett
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is made, in part, in response to an Office Action for co-pending Application Serial No. 09/626,537 mailed September 11, 2002. In the Office Action, the Examiner for the '537 application identified conflicting claims between the '537 application and the present application. Accordingly, the Applicants request the Examiner to enter the following amendments and to reconsider all pending claims in view of the amendment and the following remarks.

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231